

CHAP. 388.] ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH SESSION.

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## CHAP. 388.

AN ACT to provide for the weekly payment of wages by corporations.

APPROVED by the Governor, May 21, 1890. Passed, three-fifths being present.

*The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Every manufacturing, mining or quarrying, lumbering, mercantile, railroad, surface, street, electric and elevated railway (except steam surface railroads), steamboat, telegraph, telephone and municipal corporation, and every incorporated express company and water company shall pay weekly, each and every employe engaged in its business, the wages earned by such employe to within six days of the date of such payment, provided, however, that if at any time of payment any employe shall be absent from his regular place of labor, he shall be entitled to said payment at any time thereafter upon demand.

Weekly  
payment  
of wages  
required.

Proviso.

§ 2. Any corporation violating any of the provisions of this act shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty dollars and not less than ten dollars for each violation, to be paid to the people of the state and which may be recovered in a civil action; provided an action for such violation is commenced within thirty days from the date thereof. The factory inspectors of this state, their assistants or deputies may bring an action in the name of the people of the state as plaintiff against any corporation which neglects to comply with the provisions of this act for a period of two weeks, after having been notified in writing by such inspectors, assistants or deputies, that such action will be brought. On the trial of such action, such corporation shall not be allowed to set up any defense for a failure to pay weekly any employe engaged in its business the wages earned by such employe to within six days of the date of such payment other than a valid assignment of such wages or a valid set-off against the same, or the absence of such employe from his regular place of labor at the time of payment, or an actual tender to such employe at the time of payment of the wages so earned by him, or a breach of contract by such employe, or a denial of the employment. No assignment of future wages, payable weekly, under the provisions of this act shall be valid if made to the corporation from whom such wages are to become due, or to any person on behalf of such corporation, or if made or procured to be made to any person for the purpose of relieving such corporation from the obligation to pay weekly under the provisions of this act. Nor shall any of said corporations require any agreement from any employe to accept wages at other periods than as provided in section one of this act as a condition of employment.

Penalty for  
violation  
of act.

Actions  
for recovery  
of penalties.

Assignment  
of future  
wages.

Agreements to  
accept  
wages at  
other periods.

§ 3. The provisions of section\* two hundred and sixty-three, and three hundred and eighty-four of the Code of Civil Procedure shall apply to and govern any proceedings brought to enforce the provisions of this act, and it is hereby made the duty of the attorney-general of this state to appear in behalf of such proceedings brought hereunder by the factory inspectors of this state, their assistants or deputies.

Proceedings to enforce act.

Duty of attorney-general.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of July, eighteen hundred and ninety.

\* So in the original.